



**FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION  
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD**

APPELLANT: Patrick Gaffney  
DOCKET NO.: 21-02710.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 14-09-302-080

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Patrick Gaffney, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld of Robert H. Rosenfeld & Associates, LLC, in Chicago; and the Lake County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds **A Reduction** in the assessment of the property as established by the **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$ 24,665  
**IMPR.:** \$124,600  
**TOTAL:** \$149,265

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2021 tax year. The Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

**Findings of Fact**

The subject property consists of a one-story dwelling of frame construction with 2,566 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 2003. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and an attached garage. The property has a 14,797 square foot site and is located in Ela Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. The subject's land assessment was not challenged. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables with varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$98,023 to \$117,569 or from \$41.97 to \$48.53 per square foot of living area.

The appellant also submitted the final decision issued by the board of review for the 2021 tax year disclosing the subject's final assessment of \$155,019. The subject has an improvement assessment of \$130,354 or \$50.80 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review did not timely submit its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" or any evidence in support of its assessment of the subject property as required by section 1910.40(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.40(a). Therefore, the board of review was found to be in default pursuant to section 1910.69(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.69(a).

### **Conclusion of Law**

The taxpayer contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. When unequal treatment in the assessment process is the basis of the appeal, the inequity of the assessments must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of unequal treatment in the assessment process should consist of documentation of the assessments for the assessment year in question of not less than three comparable properties showing the similarity, proximity and lack of distinguishing characteristics of the assessment comparables to the subject property. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(b). The Board finds the appellant met this burden of proof.

The appellant submitted three assessment comparables in support the contention that the subject property was inequitably assessed. The Board finds the board of review did not submit any evidence in support of the correct assessment of the subject property or to refute the value evidence submitted by the appellant. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.40(a). Therefore, the board of review was found to be in default pursuant to section 1910.69(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.69(a). The comparables submitted by the appellant have varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject and have improvement assessments ranging from \$98,023 to \$117,569 or from \$41.97 to \$48.53 per square foot of living area. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$130,354 or \$50.80 per square foot of living area, which falls above the range established by the only comparable sales contained in the record. After considering adjustments to the comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement assessment is excessive and a reduction is warranted.

This is a final administrative decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board which is subject to review in the Circuit Court or Appellate Court under the provisions of the Administrative Review Law (735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq.) and section 16-195 of the Property Tax Code. Pursuant to Section 1910.50(d) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(d)) the proceeding before the Property Tax Appeal Board is terminated when the decision is rendered. The Property Tax Appeal Board does not require any motion or request for reconsideration.



Chairman



Member



Member



Member



Member

DISSENTING: \_\_\_\_\_

CERTIFICATION

As Clerk of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board and the keeper of the Records thereof, I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and complete Final Administrative Decision of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board issued this date in the above entitled appeal, now of record in this said office.

Date:

August 22, 2023



Clerk of the Property Tax Appeal Board

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code provides in part:

"If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel after the deadline for filing complaints with the Board of Review or after adjournment of the session of the Board of Review at which assessments for the subsequent year or years of the same general assessment period, as provided in Sections 9-125 through 9-225, are being considered, the taxpayer may, within 30 days after the date of written notice of the Property Tax Appeal Board's decision, appeal the assessment for such subsequent year or years directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board."

In order to comply with the above provision, YOU MUST FILE A PETITION AND EVIDENCE WITH THE PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE ENCLOSED DECISION IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY FOR THE SUBSEQUENT YEAR OR YEARS. A separate petition and evidence must be filed for each of the remaining years of the general assessment period.

Based upon the issuance of a lowered assessment by the Property Tax Appeal Board, the refund of paid property taxes is the responsibility of your County Treasurer. Please contact that office with any questions you may have regarding the refund of paid property taxes.

PARTIES OF RECORD

AGENCY

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COUNTY

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